

108-26 65th Ave.
Forest Hills
New York, N.Y.
4/18/50

Dear Dr.Lederberg,

Thank you very much for your kind letter. I would indeed like to be considered for the assistantship; however, there are a few points on which I should like to have some further clarification. You write, "...under the circumstances your qualifications as a candidate for further research support after the first year will be scrutinized on the same basis as those of other entering students, rather than with those students for whom facilities have been tentatively reserved following their acceptance under regular procedure." Does 'research support' refer to the assistantship or to money needed for the research proper? Also, does this mean that I would not, during my first year, be a regularly accepted student, and if so, why? I understand that, while it is too late to apply for assistantships through the regular channels, it is not too late to apply for regular admission.

You wrote in a previous note, not to fill out the application form till I had heard a favorable reply to my assistantship application, so for the time being, I am not sending the forms in yet. I have written to Dr.Sonneborn and Dr.Torrey, however.

As to working on Neurospora problems, I have no experience in handling that particular organism, which is one reason I would welcome the opportunity of working with Neurospora for a while. However, I do hope that I will be able to do the bulk of my thesis work on E.Coli.

You mentioned that there might be a possibility of a stipend for research for this summer. While I appreciate the offer, I do not think that I will be able to accept it. As you probably know, Dr.Davis is going to California around the middle of July and I do not want to inconvenience him by leaving the lab before then.

Enclosed, please find the photograph you requested. It is a bit informal, but the only thing I could dig up on short notice. If a more formal picture is required, I can of course have one taken and send it along later.

Thanking you again, I remain,
Sincerely yours,

Elise Cahn

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